

"IN MODERATION PLACING ALL MY GLORY, WHILE TORIES CALL ME WHIG—AND WHIGS A TORRY."

VOL. XIX.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14 1845

No. 2523

CASH TERMS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

For one inch and under, Three Shillings, and One Shilling for every additional inch for each insertion.

The "SIDNEY MORNING HERALD" is Published every Morning (Sundays excepted) ; and the Quarters and the 31st March, 31st June, 31st September, and 31st December ; at which periods ONLY can Subscribers decline by giving Notice and paying, the amount due to the end of the Current Quarter. ADVERTISEMENTS must specify on the face of them the number of times they are intended to be inserted, or they will be continued till countermanded, and charged to the party. No Advertisements can be withdrawn after Eleven o'clock, a. m., but new ones will be received until Nine o'clock in the Evening. No verbal communications can be attended to, and all letters must be post-paid.

CEDAR, at reduced prices, on hand at
Stewart's Cedar Yard, corner of Pitt
and Bathurst streets. 8470.

NEW SOUTH WALES BANK
Shares taken in exchange for Com-
mercial, at market rates.

W. BARTON,
Share Broker.

591, George-street.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.
ONE or two Gentlemen can be accommodated with the above, at Mrs. Mair's, Clarence-street, next to Mrs. Baxland's Cottage. 8478

TO BE LET OR SOLD, one of the best-built and well-finished houses in the colony, with large and convenient out-buildings. It is adapted either for a gentleman's residence, an hotel (for which a license has been obtained), a baker (there being a large brick oven), or indeed any other business whatsoever. It is abundantly supplied with water, and is situated in Crown-street, near the Court House.

To view the same, apply on the premises, to the undersigned.

TO LET OR FOR SALE, at Camperdown on the Sydney Road, side of the Toll-gate, eighteen and a half acres of Land, enclosed with a substantial fence, and plenty of good water.

ALSO,
To Let, for a term, at Darlinghurst, the Family House, stabling, and gardens, opposite the

Apply at the Livery Stables, York-street.
 8100 J. B. JONES

WOOL AND SHEEPSKINS.
THE Undersigned is a purchaser of
 Wool and Sheepskins, for cash.
ABRAM BIERLEY,
 Union Wharf, Sussex-street,
 Between King and Market streets.
 May 29. 7778

on cash, or advance on WOOL, OIL,
TALLOW, or other colonial produce, con-
signed for sale to their correspondents in
London, Messrs. Magniac, Jardine, and Co.,
THACKER, MASON, AND CO.,
Port-street.

SHIP "PARKFIELD."

BILLS of Lading for signature are re-
quested to be sent in immediately.—
Passengers will please pay the balance of

Gilchrist and Alexander,
 Lower George-street.
 June 13. 8470

BRIG "AMELIA."

ALL Accounts against this Vessel are
 requested to be sent in, in duplicate,
 this day, as the vessel sails on Monday morn-
 ing.

Gilchrist and Alexander.

June 18. 8678

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the late firm of O'Reilly and Bradley, as attorneys and solicitors, are requested forthwith to pay the amount of their accounts to Mr. H. B. Bradley, who is fully authorised to receive the same.

**JOHN HOLDSWORTH,
E. C. WEEKES,**
Trustees of the estate of

E. D. O'Reilly.
H. B. BRADLEY. 8440

TO MR. GEORGE BLACKETT, NOW OR
FORMERLY OF COLLINGWOOD, NEAR
LIVERPOOL, IN THE COUNTY OF CUM-
BERLAND, IN THE COLONY OF NEW
SOUTH WALES, OR HIS ASSIGNE.

TAKE NOTICE, that pursuant to an
Indenture of Release, by way of Mort-

February, one thousand, eight hundred, and forty, and made between you the said George Blackett and Charlotte Blackett, your wife of the one part: and James Forbes Beattie and John Rae, therein described, of the other part; and whereby certain land and hereditaments, situate in the county of Wellington, in the said colony, therein particularly described, were released and assured unto the said James Forbes Beattie and John Rae, their heirs, and assigns, for securing the sum of four hundred pounds, with interest thereon.

to the agents and solicitors of the mortgagees, give you notice without prejudice to the effect of any other prior notices in this behalf, that in consequence of default having been made in payment of the moneys secured as aforesaid, it is intended to exercise the power of sale contained in the said indenture, conformably to the terms and conditions therein expressed.—Dated this thirtieth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

HOLDEN, CHAMBERS, and M'CARTHY,
1409 King-street, Sydney.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.
A SECOND Dividend of 1s. 3d. in the pound is now payable in the estate of K. Dacre. Apply to Mr. J. R. Young, Hunter-street. *Bills must be produced.* 7912

CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC.
NOT to receive or negotiate the undramentionated Cheque on Commercial Bank, No. 100, dated the 2nd June, 1845, in

missory Note, payable one month after date at the Commercial Bank, in favour of James Burns, for £35, by the undersigned. There being good reasons to suppose that the value received for the above having been surreptitiously obtained by Burns, payment of both have been stopped,

THOMAS KERR,
Muswellbrook.

June 7. 83 7

NOTICE

PARTIES travelling, or otherwise passing through Yaas Plains, with flocks, herds, or other matters, are requested to keep the authorised public road as laid down by Government, and not to pass through the lands and flocks of the undersigned there, by any other route. Transgressors after this notice will be proceeded against without respect to persons.

5415 **H. O'BRYEN**

[illegible]

169d.
Ex *Jane Goudie*: H \pm I, 4 at 23d. 3 at 23d. 1 at 17 1/2 l.; Alt and E under, 6 at 22 1/2 l. C \pm 8 in square, 2 at 11d.
Ex *William Stovell*: OK in 5 at 24d. 5 at 23d. 4 at 23d. 2 at 18d.; Nit on square, 19 at 23d. 1 at 17 1/2 l.

A vertical strip showing the binding edge of a book. The right side is a dark, textured spine, and the left side is a lighter, speckled page edge.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

House of Lords—Tuesday, February 4.

His Majesty this day opened the sessions of Parliament in person. The doors leading to the floor and galleries of the house, and to the strangers' gallery, were thrown open shortly before twelve o'clock. From that moment the arrivals of visitors were rapid and numerous; so that by a few minutes after one o'clock the house was literally crammed with a brilliant array of beauty and fashion, of rank and grandeur. On no like occasion do we remember ever to have witnessed a larger assemblage of ladies. The benches on the right and left of the table were speedily engaged by fair occupants to the extent of three or four rows deep. The galleries on each side of the throne were likewise filled with peeresses or their gentle relatives or friends, only two or three noblemen being able to obtain places there; while the strangers' gallery was positively thronged. Fresh additions continued to be made even after it appeared impossible to find room for a single individual; such was the earnest perseverance of the later visitors that they forced themselves into nooks, and niches, and spaces, that none but themselves could have discovered, until at last there was an accumulation of more than 100 beautiful faces, rising in lines one above another to the last back bench. Even the liberty of the press was violated, the reporters being compelled to share their usual seats with a lady or gentleman who had been fortunate enough to obtain the right of *entrée* from the Lord Great Chamberlain or somebody else. There certainly must have been more than 400 ladies present, and so little room did they leave unoccupied in the body of the house, that a very slight stretch of the imagination made the scene appear like the assembling together of a female senate—an idea quite sufficient to reconcile one to the novelty of finding ladies in the reporters' places. There was, however, a very small attendance of peers, so that the predominance of the other sex was the more strongly marked. Exclusive of the bishops and the members of the government, there were not more than thirty members of the house present. Lord Glenelg was the first, we believe, who came. He was followed by Lord Eldon, Lord Langdale, Lord Forrester, the Marquis Camden, the Duke of Buccleugh, Lord Wharfedale, the Earl of Shaftesbury, &c. The corps diplomatique mustered strongly. Amongst that body the most conspicuous were, Le Comte de St. Aulaire, the French Ambassador; Baron Brunow, the Russian Ambassador; and Mr. Everett, the American Ambassador. They paid marked attention to the delivery of the royal speech. Sir Augustus Clifford, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod; Mr. Palmer, Yeoman Usher; and Colonel Percival, Sergeant-at-Arms, very busily engaged themselves in directing and leading the visitors to their allotted places. Amongst the illustrious persons present were the Prince of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, who stood for a long time before the Queen's arrival below the throne, apparently contemplating the splendid scene which the house presented to him from that position. About one o'clock Lord Chief Justice Tindal, Mr. Justice Williams, Lord Chief Baron Pollock, Mr. Baron Rolfe, Mr. Baron Alderson, Mr. Justice Cresswell, and Mr. Baron Platt, arrived. The entrance of the judges, who walked up from the bar to the seats immediately before the woolsack where the Lord Chancellor sits, created a universal titter amongst the ladies, who generally denounced them as "frights." The learned judges wore their robes and wigs, and the grotesque character of their costume was sufficient to account for the mirth of the ladies. Mr. Justice Patteson arrived shortly afterwards; then came Lord Campbell. About half-past one o'clock the Lord Chancellor, preceded by the mace bearer, entered the house. The Duke of Wellington followed, and began to converse with the Marquis of Winchester and Lord Wharfedale. By this time the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Winchester, and several other right reverend prelates, had taken their seats on a front bench immediately below the throne on the right. A flourish of trumpets arrested the general buzz of conversation which was going on, and directly appeared his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who crossed from the door to the Archbishop of Canterbury, with whom he spoke for some minutes, and afterwards with several peers and peeresses, in his customary unreserved style, many of his remarks being audible in the gallery. His Royal Highness conversed with Count de St. Aulaire also. The clock had struck two, when the report of guns announced the approach of the royal procession; and presently the roll of drums and the strains of martial music proclaimed the nearer approach of Her Majesty, who, at exactly a quarter past two o'clock, entered the house, accompanied by her usual officers of state and the members of the royal household. The Queen took her seat on the throne, having Prince Albert (who wore the uniform of field marshal) in the chair on her left hand, where stood the Duke of Wellington, bearing the sword of state. The Marquis of Winchester stood on the right with the Lord Chancellor, and carried the cap of maintenance. The Duke of Beaufort bore the crown. A vague rumour had been spread that the Prince of Wales would be present and occupy his chair, which stands on the right of the throne, but that report proved to be entirely without foundation. Upon the appearance of her Majesty, everybody in the house rose and remained standing until her Majesty was seated and said, "Will your lordships be seated?" Sir Augustus Clifford then directed to summon the attendance of the Commons at the bar of the House of Lords; and a pause ensued, during which the most respectful silence was observed. Those who have never witnessed similar scenes can scarcely form an adequate notion of the magnificence of the spectacle which at this period commanded the admiration of every observant spectator. Her Majesty was attired in a French white satin dress, with the royal mantle and the robes of state. Her Majesty wore a rich diamond necklace, a

stomacher adorned with, and a diadem composed of, the same precious gems. The assembly, who paid silent homage to their Sovereign, were arrayed in a variety of costume, and the multiplied diversity of their colours contrasted strongly, but pleasingly, with each other. The ermine and scarlet robes of the peers, the red and blue uniforms of the foreign visitors, the ever-differing forms and shades of the garments worn by the ladies, the sparkling tiara and the flowery wreaths, the elaborated head-dress, the white waving plume of feathers, and the undoubted beauty of long and luxuriant tresses, all combined to form an imposing tableau, rarely, if ever, exceeded in splendour; while the recollection that in that august assembly were to be seen the representatives of the power and wealth, the learning and wit, and the beauty and fashion of the nation, added increased interest and delight in the contemplation of the engaging and animated picture. At length her Majesty's "faithful Commons," with the Speaker at their head, approached the bar, their leader bowing as he advanced. There was the same boisterous rush and scramble which on most former occasions has distinguished their hurried entrance into the presence of royalty in the House of Lords. Silence being restored, her Majesty proceeded to deliver the following

MOST GRACIOUS SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I rejoice that I am enabled, on again meeting you in Parliament, to congratulate you on the improved condition of the country.

Increased activity pervades almost every branch of manufacture; trade and commerce have been extended at home and abroad; and among all classes of my people there is generally prevalent a spirit of loyalty and cheerful obedience to the law.

I continue to receive from all foreign Powers or States assurances of their friendly disposition.

I have had much satisfaction in receiving at my Court the Sovereigns who, in the course of last year, visited this country.

The journey of the Emperor of Russia, undertaken at a great sacrifice of private convenience was a proof of the friendship of his Imperial Majesty most acceptable to my feelings.

The opportunity of personal intercourse thus afforded to me may, I hope, be the means of still further improving those amicable relations which have long existed between Great Britain and Russia.

The visit of the King of the French was rendered especially welcome to me, inasmuch as it had been preceded by discussions which might have impaired the good understanding happily established between the two countries.

I regard the maintenance of this good understanding as essential to the best interests of both; and I rejoiced to express that the sentiments so cordially witnessed by all classes of my subjects on the occasion of his Majesty's visit were entirely in unison with my own.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The estimates for the ensuing year have been prepared, and will forthwith be laid before you.

The progress of steam navigation, and the demands for protection to the extended commerce of the country, will occasion an increase in the estimates connected with the naval service.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have observed with sincere satisfaction that the improvement which is manifest in other parts of the country has extended to Ireland.

The political agitation and excitement which I have had heretofore occasion to lament, appear to have gradually abated, and, as a natural result, private capital has been more freely applied to useful public enterprises, undertaken through the friendly co-operation of individuals interested in the welfare of Ireland.

I have carried into effect, in the spirit in which it was conceived, the act for the more effectual application of Charitable Donations and Bequests.

I recommend to your favourable consideration the policy of improving and extending the opportunities for academical education in Ireland.

The report of the commission appointed to inquire into the law and practice in respect to the occupation of land is nearly prepared, and shall be communicated to you immediately after its presentation.

The state of the law in regard to the Privileges of the Bank of Ireland, and to other banking establishments in that country, and in Scotland, will no doubt occupy your attention.

The health of the inhabitants of large towns and populous districts in this part of the United Kingdom has been the subject of a recent enquiry before a commission, the report of which shall be immediately laid before you.

It will be highly gratifying to me if the information and suggestions contained in the report shall enable you to devise the means of promoting the health and comfort of the poorer classes of my subjects.

I congratulate you on the success of the measures which three years since were adopted by Parliament for the purpose of supplying the deficiency in the public revenue, and arresting the accumulation of debt in the time of peace.

The act which was passed at that time for imposing a tax upon income will shortly expire.

It will be for you, in your wisdom, to determine whether it may not be expedient to continue its operation for a further

period, and thus to obtain the means of adequately providing for the public service, and at the same time of making a reduction in other taxation.

Whatever may be the result of your deliberations in this respect, I feel assured that it will be your determination to maintain an amount of revenue amply sufficient to meet the necessary expenditure of the country, and firmly to uphold that public credit which is indispensable to the national welfare.

The prospect of continued peace, and the general state of domestic prosperity and tranquillity, afford a favourable opportunity for the consideration of the important matters to which I have directed your attention; and I commit them to your deliberation, with the earnest prayer that you may be enabled under the superintending care and protection of Divine Providence, to strengthen the feelings of mutual confidence and goodwill between different classes of my subjects, and to improve the condition of my people.

Her Majesty read the speech in the same effective manner which marked the delivery of the first speech she made before Parliament. Her perfect enunciation, and clear, melodious voice, enabled her Majesty to make every word of the royal address distinctly heard in the remotest corner of the house. The allusions to the income tax and to Ireland were listened to with peculiar interest, and some of the peers and commoners exchanged significant glances. Her Majesty read the last paragraph of the speech slowly and most emphatically. The Speaker then bowed and retired with the members of the other house. Her Majesty was escorted to the long gallery by the officers of state, and bowed to the peeresses and peers as she left the house. Prince Albert also bowed several times. Her Majesty looked exceedingly well, and seemed to be in the enjoyment of perfect health.

The house resumed at a quarter to five, when the Earl of Ellenborough was introduced by the Earl of Powis and Earl Amherst, and having taken the oaths and subscribed the rolls of Parliament, his lordship took his seat on the earls' bench.

The Duke of Wellington laid upon the table a bill entitled "An Act for the better regulation of Select Vestries," which was read a first time.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

The address in reply to Her Majesty's speech, which, according to unvarying precedent, was a faithful echo of the speech, was moved by the Marquis of Camden, and seconded by Lord Glenlyon, each of these noblemen confining themselves upon this, their first occasion of appearing before the house, pretty closely to the topics suggested in the speech, and contenting themselves, as they passed each paragraph severally in review, with declaring their perfect accordance in the sentiments expressed, and recommending them for the adoption of their lordships.

The Marquis of Normanby, so far from moving any amendment upon the address, approved of all that he had yet heard of the measures to be proposed by government, and promised that he, at least, would not taunt ministers with the inconsistency of their present proposals with their former professions. Previous attempt at the reconciliation of Ireland had failed, principally in consequence of the indiscreet declarations with which they were accompanied; and the operation of the Bequests Act of last session had been clogged by objections which might easily have been obviated. With respect to the giving their titles in the commission to the Roman Catholic prelates, he must say he remembered well that a right reverend prelate whom he saw present had rated him most soundly—(a laugh) for having called the Roman Catholic Bishop of Quebec by his title at the time their lordships had in discussion; but now the government gave the title of bishop to each of the prelates who were appointed on that commission. Under these circumstances, he must point to the government whether it was possible to maintain the refusal of the titles of the Roman Catholic prelates to the Roman Catholic prelate, when they put those prelates upon a commission, one of the functions of which empowered them to decide the limits of those very dioceses. He must say that he did think that was an absurd enactment. He had always regarded the inquiry which had been in progress as to the tenure of land in Ireland as an unmixt evil, and he regretted to find that the result had justified his anticipations. The amount of agrarian outrage was also greater than it had been for many years; but he should not, for the present, bring forward any motion on the subject.

The Duke of Richmond complained that, while their lordships were called upon to express their satisfaction at the national prosperity, no mention had been made of the agricultural body, or of the losses to which it had in the last year been subjected. There was a Board of Trade, which represented commerce and manufactures. Why was there not also a Board of Agriculture? He regretted also that no promise was held out of an alleviation of the hardship with which the Income Tax bore upon the agricultural interests. He had no intention of making a Corn-law speech, but he had to protest against the omission of all mention of the agricultural interest from the speech.

A noble Lord, who followed, expressed his regret that any interference with the Scotch system of banking was contemplated. He earnestly directed any change in a system practically so successful. The representatives for Scotland would, to a man, oppose any great alteration of the system: he did hope, therefore, that the alterations which the government meant to bring forward might be of a trivial nature only, and therefore, such as he and others could concur in.

Lord Wharfedale replied to both objectors by referring them to the paragraphs in the royal speech of which they respectively complained.

Lord Brougham said, he did not wish to prolong a debate in which there was no difference of opinion. (A laugh.) He

rejoiced in the financial condition of the country; and, with regard to Ireland, he was delighted at the prospect held out of education there. The better state of feeling springing up in France towards this country was one of the most gratifying topics on which the royal speech could touch.

The Earl of Hardwicke said, the noble duke on the cross-bench (the Duke of Richmond) had touched a chord that would vibrate throughout the country, from the state and feeling of that class of the population commonly known as the agricultural interest. He regretted most extremely that the noble lord who got up to answer the short speech of the noble duke did not express the feeling which he was certain was entertained by her Majesty's Government towards that class of her subjects.

The Earl of Malmesbury regretted that more consolation had not been offered to the agricultural class, for he never saw them so depressed or out of spirits as at the present moment.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, after guarding himself from the impression that because he moved no amendment he acquiesced in all the opinions that had been expressed, and remarking especially upon the occurrence connected with the state trial of last year, proceeded, in reference to the subjects of difference which had been adjusted between this country and France, to inculcate the necessity in every instance of entering at the earliest period upon a full and explicit explanation. Without this, every insignificant island would become a plague-spot, and any unimportant transaction might be sufficient to disturb the peace of Europe. He objected altogether to the system of protectorates, which, as now constituted, he considered to be entirely innovations, and concluded by an energetic protest against the further continuance of the Income Tax.

Lord Aberdeen, in reply to the observations of the noble Marquis on the subject of mutual explanations, declared that the satisfactory adjustment of the questions respecting Tahiti had in this very manner been accomplished. The question of protectorates had not been in any degree involved. A subordinate officer, without instructions and without authority had exceeded his duty; a representation of the circumstances, founded upon justice, and urged with moderation, was urged upon the French government; and thus a settlement was arrived at, of which neither party had any reason to complain. He had asked nothing which he should not himself, in a similar case, have conceded, and upon this principle the negotiation had throughout proceeded.

Lord Campbell then introduced the subject of law reform, and drew from the Lord Chancellor an explanation of the course he meant to adopt in the present session with regard to criminal law. He (the Lord Chancellor) would bring in a bill providing for appeals in criminal cases, and, after a few words from Lord Brougham, the address was unanimously voted.

On the motion of the Duke of Wellington, resolutions were agreed to, reappointing Lord Shaftesbury as chairman of committees, and nominating the other sessional officers of the house.

The Earl of Shaftesbury expressed his thanks for his reappointment to an office which he had already filled (as was understood) for 35 years.

The Lord Chancellor amidst cheers and laughter, expressed a hope that the noble lord would live to fill it for 35 years more. Their lordships then adjourned to twelve o'clock on Monday next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—TUESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at twenty-five minutes before two, at which time there was a considerable number of members present.

At twenty minutes after two, Mr. Palmer, deputy usher of the black rod, summoned the house to the House of Commons, to hear the speech from the Throne.

The Speaker accompanied by most of the members, proceeded to the House of Lords accordingly.

On the return of the Speaker and members, the house adjourned until a quarter before four.—At that hour the Speaker again took the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.—Mr. Clifton took the oaths and his seat from North Lancashire, and Mr. Somes the oaths and his seat for Dartmouth.

NEW WRITS.—Mr. J. Young moved that a new writ be issued for the election of a knight of the shire to serve in parliament for North Wiltshire, in the room of the Hon. Sidney Herbert, who has accepted the appointment of Secretary at War.—Agreed to. The hon. gentleman then moved the issue of new writs for the election of a member for the borough of Buckingham, in the room of Sir T. F. Fremantle, who has accepted the office of Secretary for Ireland; and for the election of a member for Stamford, in the room of Sir G. Clerk, who has accepted the office of Master of her Majesty's Mint.—Both motions were agreed to.

An hon. member, on the opposition benches, moved that the Speaker issue a writ to the Clerk of the Crown in Ireland for the election of a member to serve in parliament for Tipperary, in the place of the Hon. R. O. Cave, deceased.—Agreed to.

REGULATIONS OF LABOUR.—Lord Ashley gave notice of his intention to move, on an early day, for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the labour of children in the calico printworks of Great Britain and Ireland, and also a bill to regulate the labour of young persons in mills and factories.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. J. Young gave notice, on behalf of Sir R. Peel, that it was the intention of the right hon. baronet to make a financial statement on Friday week, the 14th of February.

Sir Charles Napier gave notice that on the 15th February, he would move for a select committee to inquire into the manner in which the money voted since the year 1835 for naval purposes, had been expended, and on what system the ships, constructed by and of it, had been built.

Mr. Ewart gave notice that he would move for a select committee to inquire whether the present system of indirect taxation does not press unjustly on the poor (as well as on the industry and commerce of the country); and whether

it would not be expedient to adopt more generally the system of direct taxation upon property.

Mr. Ewart also gave notice that he should submit to the consideration of the house (on the sessional orders) the expediency of sitting by day instead of by night: meeting at one in the afternoon, and adjourning at six (except on special occasions, when it shall seem expedient to the majority of the house to prolong the debate beyond that hour); and that all committees and public business be held, or transacted, at a proportionately earlier hour in the morning.

Mr. Mackinnon gave notice that this day fortnight he would call the attention of the house to the necessity of taking measures for the promotion of the health of towns, by preventing the interment of the dead within their precincts.

Mr. Duncombe gave notice that this day fortnight he would call the attention of the house to the unsatisfactory and evasive report of the committee on the Secret Department of the Post-office, and would also submit to the house a motion on the subject. (Hear, hear.)

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

After receiving some other notices of motions, the business of the session commenced by the Speaker reading the speech from the Throne.

Mr. Charteris moved the adoption of an address in reply to her Majesty's speech. He congratulated the house on the general prosperity of the country, as evinced by the steady improvement of our trade and commerce at home and abroad. He regretted that he could not call this prosperity universal, inasmuch as in the agricultural districts, with which he was himself more immediately connected, there existed at present great distress, caused by the failure of the crops. He congratulated her Majesty on the friendly state of her foreign relations, which he considered would be much confirmed by the visit of three foreign monarchs who had all been the guests of her Majesty, to our shores within the last twelve months. He particularly insisted on the good consequences likely to result from the visit of his Majesty the King of the French, which he looked upon as a security for peace, and of renewed and prolonged amity between France and England. He hoped that a brighter day was about to dawn upon Ireland, in consequence of the abatement of agitation in that country, and of the introduction of measures, which, being based on the principles of impartiality and equality between contending sects, were calculated to remove the remnants of national animosity, and to unite all in the love of our common country. Such a measure was the Charitable Bequests Act of last session, which he considered as a first instalment, and he looked forward to the Academic Education Bill, promised by the government, and for the contemplated measure for the improvement of the tenure of land in Ireland, as instalments which were to follow. He congratulated the House on the increase of the income to be derived from the Excise, which he considered as a sound test of national prosperity, he likewise congratulated it on having placed the banking system of England on a safe footing; and hoped that in dealing with the same system in Scotland they would interfere as little as possible with existing interests. He looked forward in confidence to a great amelioration in the moral condition of the poor, from the general sympathy which had lately been excited for them in the minds of the higher and middling classes—a sympathy which was testified by the numerous plans which were now daily promulgated and discussed in every quarter.

Mr. Baring, in seconding the address, insisted on several of the topics which had been noticed by Mr. Charteris. He, too, was of opinion that the maintenance of peace, of so much importance to the happiness of the world, would be confirmed by the recent visit of foreign sovereigns to this country. He hoped that the visit of the Emperor of Russia to this commercial country, would induce him to agree to some relaxation of the commercial restrictions on the introduction of the produce of England within his dominions; and that the visit of the King of the French would remove those feelings of bitterness which had grown up in consequence of the events at Morocco and Tahiti. He believed they would all agree in the expressions of a distinguished man, lately uttered in the Chamber of Peers, in Paris—"that as peace between England and France is a guarantee for the peace of the world, though for it neither should sacrifice her essential greatness, yet for it both should sacrifice everything else."

(Hear, hear.) As a security for peace, England should always be prepared for war; and if the increase of our commercial transactions and the introduction of steam navigation had produced new circumstances, which endangered our safety, he was sure that the national spirit would gladly provide funds to meet a necessary expenditure to avert that danger. He spoke in terms of great satisfaction on the flourishing prospects of the iron manufacture, and on the improved condition of the shipping interest. The cotton manufacture, and still more the woollen trade—the latter of which indicated an improved condition of the poorer classes—were also prosperous. The same was the case with the manufactures of flax, hemp, and silk. Our imports and exports had both increased, as was evident from the Custom-house returns on tea, coffee, sugar, and tobacco. This prosperity had acted on the finances of the country, which now appeared in a very satisfactory condition. (Hear, hear.)

That condition had arisen from the imposition of the Income tax, which had changed a deficiency into a surplus of the revenue. If the country was to have relief either from a remission of duty in taxation, or from a change in the mode of raising and collecting the revenue, he thought that it would not be wise to depart from this source of income.

Lord J. Russell could readily concur in the terms of the address proposed on this occasion; but there were topics in the speech of her Majesty, and in the address in reply to it, which called for remark. That the visits of foreign Sovereigns to this country might be a fresh guarantee for the continuance of peace must be the anxious wish and

sanguine expectation of every man who heard him; but it was something singular, that though the mover and seconder of the address were both expressing hopes of peace, Ministers themselves taking precautions against the contingency of war. He congratulated the House that our amicable relations with France were not broken; but said that he could not participate in those phrases of satisfaction which Ministers used in their own praise at the conclusion of the last session. They then thought it right to advise her Majesty to praise the wisdom and moderation with which they had conducted the negotiations with France. He saw no cause for admiring either their wisdom or their moderation. What was the case? Pritchard had been put under arrest; he had been committed to solitary confinement by the French Commandant of Tahiti, on suspicion of encouraging insurrection among the natives; and it was communicated to him, that if insurrection took place, he should be held responsible for all the bloodshed which might ensue. Another French Commandant arrived, who thought that there was no ground for such severity, but who also thought that it was unsafe that Pritchard should remain at Tahiti, and therefore desired him to leave the island. It was impossible not to admit that if Captain Bruat thought the conduct of Pritchard to be a cause of danger, he had a right to remove him; but to place him in solitary confinement, and to say that he should be responsible with his life for any insurrection, was a gross outrage, and demanded reparation. It was of opinion that if there had been that cordial understanding between the two governments of which their partisans boasted so loudly, a satisfactory arrangement might have been made without the delay of two months, and without any danger of war. He commented at some length upon the correspondence which had taken place between M. Guizot and the Comte de Jarnac on the subject, and said that those papers made him believe that the two governments of France and England were both too much influenced by the pressure from without, and that the understanding between them was not cordial and complete. The cloud which menaced the duration of peace had, however, blown away, and he now trusted that ministers on both sides of the Channel would feel that it was for the interest of their respective nations, and for the peace of the world, that they should remain united, and that they should not suffer their subordinate officers at a distance of three or four thousand leagues to disturb their common tranquillity.

The present state of Spain had been produced by the cordial understanding between England and France, two of the most free nations of the earth; and that was a result which no man could be proud of. Whilst he hoped that that cordial understanding would yet ripen into friendship, he hoped that it would in future be employed in the promotion of commerce, in the propagation of intelligence, in the increase of freedom, in the destruction of slavery, and not for the substitution of a tyrannical government for mild and constitutional sway. He was not satisfied with a revival of the commission for the revision of the treaties on the slave trade; yet, if they thought that the exercise of the right of search would interrupt peace, Ministers ought to tell the public what substitute they intended to propose for it. He congratulated the House on the improved condition of our commercial relations with China, and rejoiced that it had tended much to increase commercial and manufacturing industry in Great Britain.—He referred to the paragraph in the address relating to the abatement of agitation in Ireland, and said that, nevertheless, the accounts which he had received from that country, referred to many symptoms which were highly menacing. No man said that there was fear of insurrection or increase of agitation; but no man could say that there was love and affection for the Imperial Legislature which ought to exist in the inhabitants of a free country. He attributed that want of love and affection to the very injudicious proceedings which had been taken against several leading persons in that country. He then referred at great length to the O'Connell trial, and to the reversal of the judgment in the House of Lords, particularly noticing the judgment of Lord Denman, who declared that the defendants upon the record had not had a fair trial, and that the trial by Jury was a delusion, a mockery, and a snare. (Cheers.) On the question of academical education in Ireland, he did not know whether it was a wise one or not; but as it had led Mr. Gladstone, whose talents he eulogised highly, to leave the ministry of which he was so valuable a member, he hoped that some explanation would be given of a measure which had created such dissension, and appeared so objectionable to the right hon. gentleman. Every measure of that kind was calculated to excite suspicion, not only in England, but in Ireland also. He quoted the Charitable Bequests Bill as a proof of that position, and imputed the unpopularity of its reception in Ireland to the want of confidence in the sincerity of the party which professed it felt by the population of that country. That party had influenced religious prejudices for many years; and now, when its leaders adopted a better policy, could they wonder that the agitators should throw back upon them the phrases of "surprised ruffian" and "demon priesthood," which they themselves once used? Such was the retribution which always fell on men who, instead of appealing to sound opinion, appealed to popular prejudice, and founded their power on deluding their countrymen. He expressed great satisfaction in seeing that the government were now adopting several measures which they had condemned when proposed by their predecessors. He rejoiced in the present gratifying state of commercial and manufacturing industry, but reminded the house that the prosperity of 1836 had been followed by the distress of 1838, 1839, 1840. He might prevent such vicissitudes in future, not by interfering with the dispensations of Providence, but by enabling the manufacturers of this country to exchange their produce for the productions of other nations. Let them en-

deavour, in the course of the present year, to ward off the storm which in some future season of deficient harvests may come upon them by giving to those productions of other countries which they can insure and enjoy, a freer inlet into this country than they have at present. (Loud cries of "Hear" from Mr. Cobden.) That, indeed, would be only acting in consonance with the principles of the present government, and of a great majority of this house. They do not hold, with that great society which met on Monday—(Oh, oh, y)—this protection to British industry is the true way to obtain a permanently flourishing condition of the country; on the contrary, they, with regard to many articles—with regard to many articles of great value—have declared principles which are opposed to those of protection—principles, which, if they are not those of entire free trade, are known by the name of free trade—that these are principles by which the interests of nations should be regulated and by which the policy of this country in particular should be governed. (Cheers from the Opposition.) He was convinced that protection was not the support but the bane of agriculture. (Loud cheers from the opposition.) Then the question with regard to that subject was, whether they should do, in a season of prosperity, calmly, deliberately, with all the dignity of legislators, considering what was best for those they represented, that which they might have to do hereafter hastily, under the compulsion of popular uproar, and with the fear that they might be unable to deny that which they appeared to grant. (Cheers from the Opposition.) He must say that he thought that, both with regard to the question of Ireland, and with regard to the question of free trade, they ought to take advantage of the present time. They said Ireland was more tranquil; they said that trade was prosperous. Still they lose the opportunity when everybody admits that if they were forced by foreign war and internal commotion they would give to Ireland almost everything she asked, and when everybody would admit, that if forced by two or three bad harvests, or strong popular excitement, they would have no hesitation in changing their corn law? (Hear.) If that was the case, wait not for those events. Take this time then, take advantage of the prosperity that was before them. Consider themselves most happy in being in the situation of government at such a period, and show themselves worthy of the great nation which they are called upon to defend. (Loud cheers from the Opposition.)

Mr. Miles wished to know why Lord John had proposed a fixed duty, if he was so convinced that protection was the bane of agriculture? Had his lordship found it convenient to make a compact alliance with the Corn Law League? If the Income Tax were continued, he should claim that in the reduction of taxation the agricultural interest should not be forgotten.

Mr. Gladstone entered into an explanation of the reasons which had induced him to retire from the government of which he had been a member. After thanking Lord John Russell for the very kind terms in which he had spoken of his services, he observed that in the statement in which he was about to make, he had no blame to cast upon any of his colleagues for any dereliction of their principles or their professions. His statement, therefore, would not be a controversial statement, or a justification of his conduct, but a mere explanation of circumstances, which, if misstated or misconceived, might lead to mischievous mistakes. He had not resigned on account of any matter connected with that department of the government with which his services had long been connected. He had not resigned on account of any differences of opinion on the intentions, as far as he knew of them, of his colleagues towards the Church either of England or Ireland. He had stated to the world formerly, not in haste, but with great deliberation, the relations which a Christian State ought to have with respect to religion. He had a strong impression that those who had once expressed strong opinions on subjects involving such important principles, should not be parties to propose material departures from them. At the close of last session Sir R. Peel mentioned his intention to inquire into the state of education in Ireland, and the inquiry with which that education was conducted. It was not in possession of the measures which the government were about to bring forward; and as to Maynooth College, he knew of nothing which were about to do that might not be safely inferred from what they had done. At the same time he must say, that the views which her Majesty's government took on that subject differed from those which he thought ought to be taken on such a question. The spirit of their measure with respect to the endowment of the College of Maynooth differed much from the spirit of that which he had deliberately recommended. His uniform conviction was that though he was not to fetter his judgment by reference to abstract theory, yet that it was due to the public to place himself in a position to form an honest and an unprejudiced judgment. He had, therefore, taken a course which had caused him much pain, and which had separated him from men with whom he had acted in public life, and of whom he was bound to say he continued to regard them with unaltered sentiments of public regard and private attachment. The discussion of an increased grant to Maynooth was connected with excitable topics in this country; but he was prepared to take part in any religious warfare against Sir R. Peel's measure such as he anticipated it might be—nor to draw distinctions between Roman Catholics of Ireland and others of his fellow countrymen, so far as regarded their religious creed.

Sir R. Peel commenced his observations by referring to the subject of Mr. Gladstone, for whose talents he felt an admiration which could only be equalled by the attachment he felt for his private character. His right hon. friend had mentioned his objection to their measure some time ago, and if he had not rescinded his resignation, it was his (Sir R. Peel's) fault, as he was unwilling to lose his difference services as a Minister of the Crown. It was not on account of any discrepancy in the commercial policy of the country that his right hon. friend had re-

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signed his office—on such points there was, and always had been, the most complete unanimity between them—but it was one of such a subject, which he might be permitted to mention to the house, though his right hon. friend had declined. On the motion of Mr. Wyse last year, he, as the organ of the Government, had declared that it was their intention during the recess to apply themselves to the question of academic education in Ireland. He had then admitted that there was not the same facilities for academic education in that country that there was in Great Britain; and he was now prepared at an early period of the session to propose an increase of facilities for academic education in Ireland, open to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects. Among other institutions which would be benefited by that increased vote the College of Maynooth would be one. (Loud cheers from the Opposition.) The Government intended to propose a liberal increase in the grant to that college, unaccompanied by any restrictions or regulations as to religious doctrines which would diminish its grace and favour. (Hear, hear, from Mr. Sheil.) The sincerity with which the Government was acting on this subject was evident from the fact that it had persevered in its intention with a full knowledge that it would lead to the resignation of so valuable a colleague as Mr. Gladstone; and yet the noble lord had taken a party advantage of the liberal policy adopted by the Government, and had condescended to make a little insinuation against it, in order to persuade the people of Ireland to reject the proposal, because the Government were the authors of it. He then proceeded to defend the conduct of the Government in respect to the Charitable Bequests Bill, which they had proposed as a matter of justice to Ireland. (Cheers from the ministerialists.) The noble lord had thought it decorous to neutralise the benefit of that measure by again ripping up phrases which had been used in the heat of party contest; but who could wonder that the agitators used them, when the noble lord forgot his dignity, and followed their bad example? The words which the noble lord had quoted were not used by him or by his friends, and he denied that he had ever used the words of insult to the people of Ireland. He considered the speech of the noble lord as a bitter party speech, and thought that his equanimity had been disturbed by the contrast which existed between the speech from the throne this year and those speeches which had been made when he was minister. Then there was great distress, now there was great prosperity; then there was a deficiency, now there was a surplus of revenue. He then proceeded to justify the proceedings of the Government in the late negotiations with France on the subject of the treatment of Mr. Pritchard. He had never asked more of the French Government than that which he ultimately got—a fair and reasonable reparation. He should have felt that he was pursuing a course inconsistent with good policy if he had asked for a reparation humiliating to France. He denied that Government had complimented itself at the close of last session on account of its wisdom. All that had been stated was, that the differences had been adjusted by the justice and moderation of the respective governments of the two countries. He rejoiced in the good understanding which now existed between the two countries, as there must, from their proximity to each other, be a good understanding, or something differing little from downright hostility between them. There was not one reparation made by France to us, which he would not have made to France himself, if the circumstances had been reversed. He thought it better to refrain from any discussion on the right of search until the papers connected with that subject were on the table of the house. The house would then be able to decide whether the Government had made any compromise in its object—the suppression in the detestable traffic in slaves. Public opinion had been raised in France against the right of search; and that right was paralysed when it was exercised against the good sense of a country. Mr. Guizot had stated his intention to give this country a substitute as efficacious, if not more efficacious, than the right of search. The commissioners appointed to enquire into the nature of that substitute were, on the part of France, the Duke de Broglie, the minister who had signed the treaty giving us the right of search; and on the part of England Dr. Lushington, who had devoted his whole life to the suppression of the slave trade. With regard to the financial arrangements of the year, he would only remind the house that an hon. friend of his had given notice that it was his (Sir R. Peel's) intention to bring them forward before the usual time. He should place at an early period the general outlines of his plan before the house, as he thought that when alterations were to be made in our financial policy, an early declaration of them was best. He wished the noble lord would take the sense of the house on the question, whether the Government had dishonoured the fair fame of their country by their course, either with respect to Mr. Pritchard or to the right of search. He wished the house to declare whether the conduct of Government, in accepting a reparation which was honourable to both countries, was not a course dictated by wisdom, and justified by sound policy.

Sir C. Napier complained of the conduct of the French officers at Tahiti, not only towards Mr. Pritchard, but also to the commander of the *Coromant*. If an English officer had behaved in the same manner to French subjects, he would have been brought to a court martial, and would have lost his commission. He thought that sufficient reparation had not been given to this country. We were not able to show a bold face to France. At the period of the Tahiti affair we had only one three decked man-of-war at Plymouth, and one of 80 guns at Portsmouth, while France had ten steamships at Cherbourg, ready to land 10,000 men on the opposite coast, the very day after that on which it might have occurred that the British Ambassador had demanded his passport, and Portsmouth and Plymouth docks might have speedily been attacked, and all the munitions of our navy there destroyed. No wonder the right honourable baronet, then, had been content with less than the just measure of reparation. He (Sir Charles) was glad, however, to hear that the eyes of the Government at length had been opened, that we were at last to have some efforts directed towards the equipment of efficient naval forces, which must prevent such eccentricities in future as had thus been allowed to occur, and had been so inadequately atoned for.

Mr. Plumptre did not consider the explanation of Mr. Gladstone to be very intelligible. He admitted that Sir R. Peel last session promised to make further concessions to the Roman Catholics. His announcement that he was now prepared to carry that promise into execution would create a considerable sensation out of doors. He was surprised that Sir R. Peel, after his experience, was not convinced that conciliation was an inexpedient course. Conciliation was the fruitful parent of demands, and would continue to be so while anything remained to be demanded. (Loud cheers from the opposition.)

Mr. Wise observed, that at the close of last session he had not asked for, nor had Sir R. Peel promised to grant, any concession to the Roman Catholics. The grant for education was not to be considered as a mere financial question; it rested on higher grounds: it was a great moral question. He thought that Sir R. Peel had redeemed the pledges on this subject which he had given last session. He had promised to take into consideration the means of facilitating the education of the laity and clergy of Ireland—that was all Sir R. Peel said, and it would be for the house to deal with his measures, when they were introduced, as it thought fit. He wished to know whether it was the intention of the right hon. baronet to throw the University of Dublin open? On that point he had not said a word.

Mr. Bellow never witnessed anything like the agitation in Ireland against the Charitable Bequests Bill. The manner of the grant to Maynooth would give to the people of Ireland great and unalloyed satisfaction. He anticipated great benefit from the commission on the tenure of land in Ireland.

Mr. Villiers said that it was now clear that all the objects of the protective system had been defeated, and that in consequence of the relaxation of that system the present prosperity of the country had been produced. It was to the blessed intervention of Providence, and not to any merits of honorable gentlemen opposite that this was owing. The commercial interests were flourishing, but the agricultural interest was complaining—labourers, tenants, and landlords. Gentlemen opposite were the artisans of the protective system; and they were disappointed in its present results. If those results were bad, what reason could they urge for its continuance? He rejoiced in the declaration of Lord John Russell, that protection was the bane and not the support of agriculture, and called upon the house to watch with the closest attention the new financial measures of Government—to support them, if they abandoned, and oppose them if they were based on the protective principle.

Mr. Sheil alluded, in a complimentary strain, to the resignation of Mr. Gladstone. He thought that Sir R. Peel would think it unfortunate that his right hon. friend should have determined to sacrifice the statesman to the author, and would have reason to exclaim, "Oh that my friend had not written a book!" He (Mr. Sheil) remembered every word in that book, and he recollected that Mr. Gladstone had stated that "the maintenance of Maynooth was a matter of contract; that if such a contract existed, Maynooth ought to be maintained in a degree of splendour worthy of the donor; but that if no such contract existed, Maynooth ought to be suppressed." Now, there could be no doubt as to the existence of such a contract made at the time of the Union, and confirmed since by many grants of the Imperial Parliament, and therefore, he could not help expressing some surprise that a difference on this point should have induced the right hon. gentleman to retire from his situation in the Ministry. He gave Sir R. Peel high praise for making this grant, and for the manner in which he made it. He also wished to know whether the University of Dublin was to be thrown open, as it was a point of honour with every Irish Roman Catholic to have its scholarships and fellowships thrown open, as they were not on an equality with their Protestant subjects so long as they were debared from them. He showed that it was not a small insinuation which Lord J. Russell had made against the present Government in his admirable speech, for it embraced the injustice of all their proceedings in the celebrated O'Connell prosecution, from its first commencement to its close. He then entered into a discussion on the merits of the Charitable Bequests Bill, and after some other observations, asked Sir James Graham if he was still prepared to bring in his Irish Registration Bill, and to repeat his pledge that conciliation had now reached its utmost limit?

Sir J. Graham had no hesitation in stating that it was the determination of the Government to propose an Irish Registration Bill this session. As to the period of its introduction, he could not speak so decidedly, as it was clear that a measure of vast importance, of which notice had been given that night, must precede it. The Maynooth question and the Academic Education Bill would also precede it; but it was undoubtedly the intention of Government to introduce such a measure this session. He could not hold out any hope that Government would alter the main principle of the Bequests Bill, relative to the holding of land in perpetuity; but as it was not the intention of Government to place the regular clergy in a worse position than that which they occupied before the bill was introduced, they would have no objection to propose an alteration in it if it should be found that the regular clergy were damaged by the 16th clause, and another clause which had relation to it.

Mr. Shaw said, that the scholarships and fellowships of Trinity College, Dublin, could not be thrown open to Roman Catholics, as they were part and parcel of the Protestant Church of Ireland. He then entered into a legal explanation of the manner in which it happened that it appeared upon the record of "The Queen v. O'Connell and others," that there were

60 names omitted from the jury list, when, in point of fact, there were not more than 24.

Lord Palmerston concurred in the satisfaction which had been so generally expressed in the house at the late visit of foreign Sovereigns to this country. He was not, however, sanguine in his anticipations as to the real benefits to be derived from it. The effect of a good understanding between two countries was best seen when casual circumstances rose up which were calculated to disturb it. He thought that the cordial understanding so much boasted of last year had fallen on the very first occasion on which it might have been useful. He denied the position laid down in France and acquiesced in that, that Mr. Pritchard was not a consul when arrested at Tahiti. He had suspended his functions, *quod* the intrusive French officers, who had seized on the island and deposed Queen Pomare; but he was still in the performance of consular functions to all British subjects frequenting that island as merchants. If there had been any charge against Mr. Pritchard for endangering the tranquillity of the island, then, he admitted, that the French authorities in the island had a right to require him to depart; but it was incumbent on them, before they called on him to withdraw, to have placed their charge against him clearly under his view. No such charge had been laid before the French Chamber, and there was nothing to justify his removal from Tahiti, even in the most courteous manner. The French officer removed him, because he suspected that Mr. Pritchard had done something worthy of suspicion. Here, then, was a gross outrage committed; and it was the fault of the two governments that it had been committed, for the protectorship of Tahiti never ought to have been allowed. That change in the government of Tahiti could not be made without incurring the risk of a collision, which might bring the two governments into a very awkward condition. If we had had a stout frigate or two on that station, things would have passed in a manner more decorous, and less likely to have brought the two nations into collision. He would not say that there was great ground for the country to complain, as things turned out at last; still he could not say that the result justified those ardent expressions of satisfaction communicated to the French Government, but not repeated to parliament at the close of the last session. He maintained that our Government had not acted in a way altogether satisfactory to this country. The right hon. baronet had described the outrage on Mr. Pritchard as a gross outrage, for which he had no doubt that reparation would be given by the French Government, and yet no formal reparation had ever been demanded by the British Government. He felt it necessary to say something on the commission appointed to examine the treaties of 1841; yet if the documents connected with them were to be as long delayed as those which he asked for last year respecting the negroes, the postponement might be more useful to the right hon. baronet than it would be agreeable to the house.

Sir R. Peel: I will make up for the former delay by giving you these papers to-morrow.

Lord Palmerston proceeded to observe, that if the commission were merely appointed to inquire whether any measures could be substituted effectually for the right of search, it was a mere farce, and he was very sorry that two such eminent men should be employed upon it. He was afraid that out of complaisance to the present ministers of France, her Majesty's Government were about to sacrifice the great principles of a measure for which the British Parliament had always evinced the warmest interest. He was convinced that without a maritime police it would be quite impossible to keep down the slave trade. The clamour against that policy had been raised in France, as it had been raised in Portugal, by slave owners and slave dealers, and that clique was now in possession of a considerable portion of the French press.

Sir R. Inglis regretted that Lord Palmerston had taken the course he had done on the Tahiti question. For his own part, deeply interested as his feelings were against the slave trade, he would not say or do anything to disturb the arrangement which had been made and accepted as satisfactory. He warned his right hon. friend, the member for Tamworth, that he must not expect to pacify Ireland by the measure which he had just propounded, or by any measure of a similar character.

Lord Sandon was not prepared to join with the last speaker in his objection to the increased grant to the College of Maynooth.

Lord Howick said, that nobody had been more anxious than himself to suppress the slave trade; but what had been the result of all the efforts made for that purpose by this country? Many valuable lives of our officers and seamen had been sacrificed; and we had not only failed in our object, but had even aggravated the horrors of the slave trade. We had no right to exercise the police of the sea unless it were clear that in so doing we were promoting the interests of humanity. He was aware that such sentiments would not find favour with the house and the Government; but he was of opinion that if we abandon our right of search, other nations would be compelled by a joint feeling of honour and humanity to prohibit the exercise of the slave trade by their subjects.

The address was then put from the chair and carried unanimously.

Adjourned at 11 o'clock.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.
HOUSE OF COMMONS, FEBRUARY 14.
The Speaker took the chair at the usual hour. At twenty minutes to five o'clock the house having resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, Sir R. Peel rose, amid a general murmur of expectation, to move the following resolution—"That it is the opinion of this committee, that, towards raising the supply granted to Her Majesty, the respective duties on property, professions, trades, and offices, and the stamp duties in Ireland, granted by two several acts passed in the fifth year of her present Majesty, be continued and further granted to Her Majesty for a time to be limited." It would be his duty to present to the house the general views of the present financial position of the country; to make an estimate of the probable revenue; to discuss the great question—whether it be consistent with the public interests that the present amount of expenditure should be diminished, or whether it would not be better that there should be, with respect to some important branches, an increase of both. (Hear, hear.) If the house should entertain that proposition for reasons which he should adduce, it would then be incumbent upon him (Sir R. Peel) to propose for their consideration, whether it be fitting that that increased expenditure should be met from the ordinary sources of income, or whether it be not advisable that the tax imposed in the year 1843, on property, should be continued for a further limited period, for the double purpose of providing efficiently for the execution of the public service, and for enabling Parliament to reduce and repeal other taxes bearing more immediately upon the industry and commercial enterprise of the country. (Hear, hear.) He should not enter on any statement or observations connected with past party considerations. (Cheers.) He should postpone all political contention to some future period—only to-night, placing before this House the present financial position of the country. He would first refer to the estimate of the receipts and expenditure made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the end of 1844. He then calculated the revenue for the year ending the 5th of April, 1845, would amount to £51,790,000, and the expenditure to £48,643,000, leaving an estimated surplus of £3,147,000. That estimate was disturbed by the duties on wool and glass, reduced late in the session, but which was balanced by a vote for China, which it was not found necessary to apply. This made an almost even balance. The apparent surplus was, however, reduced to a real one of £2,370,000. The surplus so estimated was, on making up the account in January last, very considerably exceeded. There was then a surplus of £3,357,000, while the sum calculated of net proceeds of revenue was £54,003,000, chiefly produced by an increase in the customs revenue. The excise, taken at £13,000,000, had produced £13,308,000 on that day. The expenditure on the 31st of January, 1845, on debt and consolidated fund, had been £32,862,000, and with other public expenditure, the whole reached £30,646,000, leaving an actual surplus of £3,357,000. The estimated surplus on the expenditure of the year ending on the 5th of April next would amount to upwards of £5,000,000. (Cries of hear, hear.) This calculation was formed on the basis of the public accounts as taken up to January last; on this surplus of £5,000,000 the House might at that period confidently calculate. (Hear.) He thought himself justified in stating that the revenue had improved so far, apart from the property tax, that, independent of that surplus of £5,000,000 there was an improvement on the rest of the revenue. Part of this was made up from casual and temporary sources, amounting altogether to a sum of £500,000. The income tax had produced £5,190,000, thus showing that the revenue from ordinary sources would not quite cover the expenditure. The estimate of probable receipt from the revenue for the next year, leaving out of consideration the income tax, was as follows:—Customs, £22,000,000; excise, £13,500,000; stamps, £7,100,000; taxes (land and assessed), £4,200,000; Post Office, £700,000; Crown lands, £150,000; Miscellaneous, £250,000; the total being £47,900,000. They calculated they should receive £600,000 of the China money during the coming year, and even without the income tax being renewed, they had half a year's receipt of it, bringing £2,600,000; this gave a total revenue on the year of £51,100,000. The demands on that amount of revenue, if the estimates of last year were continued as at present, would be—for debt, £28,158,000; the Consolidated Fund, £2,400,000; estimates (as last year), £17,700,000; giving a total charge of £48,577,000; which, deducted from the total revenue, left a surplus of £2,523,000 to be calculated upon as arising on the 5th of April, 1846. The receipt of income tax, and the casual receipt of China money left out, would make a small deficiency of revenue for the year ending in April, 1847. It was a question now whether they were justified in making a demand for the increased estimates for the welfare of the country, and this he should attempt to make out. He should be as little justified because of the surplus, any more than if there had been a deficiency, in increasing the expenditure of the country, unless natural advantages afforded him that justification. He was afraid there was generally prevalent an erroneous opinion of the public expenditure, and the means of making deductions. The right hon. baronet then analysed the items, comprising the whole amount of expenditure, in order to show that no less a sum than £53,309,000 was incapable of allowing any reduction, in which the expenditure of the public service, in which the executive could make reductions at all. Among the charges which had received the sanction of Parliament was the civil contingencies; that, too, they could not touch. At the marriage of the Crown no increase of the civil list had been made; while it had pleased Providence to bless that marriage with four children, and although two of the most powerful sovereigns in the world had visited her majesty last year, and increased her expenses, yet he would not be called upon to ask for one shilling additional on these grounds. (Cheers.) In proposing an estimate for the army, they should bear in mind what was the extent of their colonial possessions. Since 1792, their colonial possessions had increased from twenty-two to forty-five, thus considerably increasing our expenditure. For the service of these forty-five colonies they had an army of 92,500. But what was the fact with respect to the regiments abroad? They had now twenty-three regiments in India, fifty in the colonies, and four on their passage—making together seventy-seven battalions abroad, and they had thirty-five battalions at home—not as was generally supposed for the preserving the public peace, but for supporting the system of relief of regiments in the colonies. The rule was, five years at home and ten abroad, but they

were not able to adhere to it. The military force at home did not enable them to supply the demands for the necessary relief. Let him take a series of years, from 1824 to 1842, a period of eighteen years, and let him take a period of comparative peace—at least there had been no war of any magnitude. Now, what during that period was the average duration of service? It was ten years abroad and five at home? No. For the whole of these eighteen years the actual service was fourteen years abroad and only four at home. It might be said that he spoke of rank and file and not of officers. But, as was well known, they did attempt to diminish the number of officers, but it was then said that the force was so inefficient that they were obliged to increase the numbers in consequence of the representations made to the Government on the subject. (Hear, hear.) Now what was the fact with regard to India? There were twenty-two battalions in India, and twelve of them for a period of thirteen years, four for a period of twenty years, and one battalion, which had been then foreign service for twenty-three years, which was now returning home. Now when thirty-eight years had elapsed, that regiment would have been on foreign service thirty-three years, and at home only five years. (Hear.) If they were to adhere to their own principle of five years at home and ten abroad, they would require forty-seven battalions more; that is to say, if they relieved the battalions in Australia and India, according to the rule laid down, they would require forty-seven battalions, in addition to the 77 they had at present. (Hear.) Now, with only 35 battalions at home, he asked the House whether her Majesty's Government would be acting consistently with their duty if they recommended a diminution of the British army. (Hear, hear.) He consequently proposed that a vote should be taken in the army estimates for the present year, for six millions six hundred thousand pounds, which was the same as that of last year. (Hear, hear.) He now proceeded to call the attention of the House to the state of the Navy. With regard to the estimates for the Navy it would be their duty to ask for an increase. They should propose, in the course of the present year, an increase in the number of men serving in the navy to the extent of 2500 more than those now actually employed, and about 1000 more than the number voted last year. (Hear, hear.) They should make that proposal on these grounds:—That on account of our extended colonial empire, and with new commercial interests connected with it, there was a growing demand for the protection of our commerce in almost every part of the world. (Hear, hear.) Within the last few years, three great naval stations had grown up. The first was on the coast of Africa, the second in the Pacific, and the third in the China seas. (Hear, hear.) Now just compare the number of men employed on these several stations in the year 1841, with the number of men which they felt it their duty now to keep there, and in respect to the employment of which they had scarcely any option last year. In 1841 on the coast of Africa there were employed 690 men. In the last year, for the purpose of making a more vigorous attempt at the suppression of the slave trade, they had employed on the coast of Africa no less than 2590. (Hear, hear.) In the Pacific, in 1841, 760 men were employed; and last year and at present there were 2447. (Hear.) In China in 1841 there was only a small frigate, and previously to the commencement of hostilities there was only the ordinary force. But at present, in consequence of the treaty entered into there were now employed 2105 men. (Cheers.) They had intended to make a reduction; they intended to have merely a vessel at each of the five ports. But they had been met by the strongest representations of the most eminent men, who urged that it was politic to do so. Sir H. Pottinger had urged the importance of keeping up the force for the purpose of imposing a check, and preventing any infraction of the Chinese laws. (Hear.) In comparing the number of men employed in 1841, with the number now actually employed, the increase was about 6000. (Hear, hear.) The house would recollect what took place last year; a complaint was made that there was not a sufficient force at Hong Kong; and if he had the time and opportunity he was sure he could convince every dispassionate mind that they could not with safety or wisdom reduce the force which they at present had in these places (hear)—nor for the purpose of war or aggression—but our commerce was extending, and it was impossible to deny that the presence of a British vessel had great effect in maintaining the interests of this country. (Cheers.) On one station alone there had been an increase of 6000 men. The very principle of dispersion which prevailed diminished the efficiency of the naval complement. With the most perfect confidence in the request he was making, he should ask for an increase in the naval force of the country of 4000 men—(hear, hear)—and the charge occasioned by that increase would be about £181,000. It was of great importance that the country should have the means of perfecting its discipline, improving its officers, and having a certain number of ships of war. They ought to have at their command a fleet of nine or ten sail of the line, which would not, he thought, create jealousy in the minds of foreign nations. They did not propose this increased estimate with any idea of aggression. They would increase the number of men by 4000, which would not give them more than ten sail of the line. They could not overlook the progress making in steam navigation. This House last year sanctioned the formation of two basins at Portsmouth and Davenport, for the purposes of steam ship building. For this they proposed taking a vote of £187,000 for steam navigation; they would also take a vote so as to keep it up suitable to a peace establishment, for the increase in the naval estimates they proposed an additional burden of upwards of a million. (Sensation.) The total expenditure for the year would be the debt, £28,395,000; the consolidated fund, £2,400,000. For supply—the army, £6,617,000; the navy, £6,936,000; the ordnance, £2,142,000; the miscellaneous estimates, £3,000,000; being altogether £18,895,000; and this added

to the expense of the debt, would make £49,690,000; for this increased expenditure the revenue of next year, even without the property tax, would provide and leave a surplus on the 5th April, 1846. The next question was—in what manner would they provide for the increased expenditure in the years subsequent to 1846? It was as much the duty of a Government to look out for the future prospects available, as to meet the present, and to submit to this House the consideration of this question. They were induced, therefore, to propose a continued operation of the income tax. The right honourable baronet said his next duty was to state what relief from taxation the Government would propose in consequence of the surplus which that tax placed in their hands. Supposing that tax continued, the whole income would be for the year ending April, 1846, £53,706,000, subject to a deduction of £600,000, Chinese money. The charge for the debt and public expenditure would be £49,690,000, leaving a surplus then of £3,409,000. Hence approached the mode in which the surplus should be applied to the relief of the public. He thought the House, by means of its continuance, would be enabled to lay the foundation of increased commercial prosperity, and even increase the comforts of those who would have to contribute to it. (Cries of "Hear, hear.") The right hon. baronet then indicated the various sources of taxation which they were bound to consider in coming to the deliberation of this subject. If they received the continuance of the Income Tax, they proposed to make a new experiment, so as to try if they could not fill up the void which would be occasioned by the cessation of that tax. (Hear, hear.) He first took those taxes collected by the Customs, and submitted the views of Government with respect to the reduction of the duty on sugar. Last year a temporary arrangement was made to admit free-labour sugar into competition with our own sugar. The amount of discriminating duty fixed on sugar was 10s. 6d. per cwt. They proposed to restrict the competition of our own sugar with free colonies sugar, and those countries having with us reciprocity treaties already entered into. The duties by the act of last session were 24s. 5d., and on free-labour sugar 34s., with 5 per cent additional on each. They proposed on all sugar, except refined, the produce of our colonies, to make a reduction; with respect to brown Muscovado they proposed to reduce the duty to 14s., taking off 11s. 3d.; with respect to Muscovado sugar, that reduction would apply to all British plantation sugar. But to some districts in British India they proposed to retain the duty at 18s. 6d. They proposed the duty on free labour foreign sugar at 23s. 4d. With respect to white or clayed sugar, they proposed a duty on British plantation to be 15s. 4d.; on such sugar imported from India to be 21s. 9d.; and on free labour foreign sugar a duty of 28s.; the duty on molasses to be in the same proportion. They proposed to remove the prohibitory duty from refined sugar, the present duty fixing at 14s. 5d., which would include the 5 per cent, and 21s. 5d. on double refined. They estimated the produce of sugar from their own possessions during the next year to be Stock in hand in January last 45,000 tons. The estimate made by the Customs of the probable production of British plantation sugar was—from
The East Indies . . . 135,000 tons.
The Mauritius . . . 40,000
British India . . . 70,000
Being a total of 245,000 tons.

This estimate was very nearly the same as that made by other independent and competent authorities; the lowest of these estimates was 235,000 tons, and the highest 256,000. They considered the reduction of duty would amount to 14d. per lb., not quite so much (hear, hear), but other reasons operated which would make the amount of reduction probably 14d. per lb. They estimated the loss of revenue on this head to be on 275,000 tons; they calculated the increase of consumption to be 43,000 tons. The whole sugar revenue, under the proposed rate of duty, they estimated at £3,916,000, while last year it was £5,216,000, leaving a probable loss next year of nearly £1,300,000. The right honourable baronet then said he should enumerate the other articles on which they proposed either reduction or extinction of duty. They would adopt, as a general rule, the extinction of duty on all articles of export, and they would not reserve coal as an article of exemption. (Hear.) The loss on the coal duty would be about £118,000, and on the whole export duty very little more. He now came to duties levied, amounting individually to a very small extent; the tariff now included, upon the whole, about 813 articles. They proposed to remove the duty now applicable to 430 of these articles, having arrived at the conclusion that it was advisable to abolish the duty altogether, thus getting rid of a number of troublesome accounts; all they would retain was the power of examination as to weight and quantity for statistical purposes. The expense of warehousing would be by this saved. The articles thus proposed to have the duties on them abolished would be raw materials, the fibrous materials of silk, hemp, and flax, furniture woods, animal and vegetable oils, ores and minerals, except copper ore, iron, and zinc, in the first stage of its manufacture, dyes, stuffs, and drugs, except some very noxious ones. Slaves, which were in point of fact a raw material, and now paid a duty of not less than 30 per cent, and they proposed to admit them henceforward without paying any duty; they should of course limit the length of the slaves so as to prevent fraud. He hoped the removal of this duty would improve the condition of the coasting trade, which now furnished many most ingenious workmen. The loss to the revenue on all these would be about £320,000. He came now to the last article he meant to deal with—namely, cotton wool; the duty of 3-8ths of a penny a pound amounted to twelve and a half per cent on the value of the fabric. They were now prepared to advise the abolition of the duty on this article. (Loud cries of "hear, hear.") The estimated loss of revenue on cotton wool would not be

less than £680,000. In respect to the revenue derived from customs they meant to recommend no further alterations. They had reviewed the excise duties, with the intention of finding those articles in which they could best afford relief. With respect to the auction duty proposed, which now paid about £320,000, there was none which he thought so objectionable as this, to which in its operation there are now thirty-two exemptions. He proposed, instead of separate licenses, as auctioneers were now obliged to have, that they should pay only one, and that its amount should be £15. The present number of auctioneers was about 4000, which would give an auction duty of £60,000. He proposed to abolish the auction duty on articles offered for sale. The next article he came to was glass—(hear)—the duty on glass was 200 and even 300 per cent on the value of the manufactured article. He proposed the removal of the duty on this article, the amount of loss upon which would be about £640,000. This exhausted the list of articles on which Her Majesty's Government proposed to repeal or diminish the taxes. The right honourable baronet then repeated the estimate which he had made in the early part of his speech of the year's revenue, if the Income Tax were retained—viz., £53,409,000. The estimated loss on the articles, the duty on which he proposed to reduce, would be—on sugar, £1,300,000; on coal, £118,000; the duties on imports, £320,000; on cotton wool, £680,000; on auctions, £300,000; on glass, £640,000; making a total loss of revenue of £3,338,000, nearly absorbing the actual surplus of £3,409,000. After some further observations, the right honourable gentleman sat down amid loud cries of "Hear, hear."

After a short pause, Sir Robert rose again, and said that he would not ask the committee to confirm his proposition that night; but he hoped that hon. members would be in a condition to decide on the principles of his resolutions on Monday next. The right hon. baronet then moved that the chairman report progress, and ask leave to sit again on Monday.

The motion was carried after a few words from several members. The house resumed, and immediately afterwards adjourned.

FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

WHILE the pompadour velouté, piqué satins, and all rich materials in beautiful and lively colours are among the splendid novelties of the season, all lighter materials are preferred for ball dresses; crapes, ombres and embroidered, and other silk materials, as well as organdy, are worn. Yellow is a very fashionable colour for crapes. Double and triple skirts are very general; and the mantons, which are the trimmings placed on each side the skirts, are very fashionable: beautiful wreaths have been made for the style of feuillage, sparkling with emaux, having the appearance of precious stones falling on the leaves.

For carriage and visiting dresses, velvet and satin damas divide favour, in all the varied forms of pelisses, pardessus, robes, redingotes, &c., they are trimmed with black lace gimp, in torades, in chenille, mixed with bugles, &c.; some are with high bodies and revers, others quite close, others half open, the two fronts uniting, with several rows of lace and gimp purposely made; the sleeves tight, with under one of muslin, and three or four bracelets de fantaisie, which are now much worn. Many dresses of the Amazon form button from the throat to the bottom of the skirt, with a small gold or silver chased button. One of the prettiest novelties of the season are the robes à rubans; these ribbons, of pretty tints and fringed, are placed in eight and ten rows on crape or tulle dresses, forming the prettiest trimming possible.

Paletots of velvet, or manteaux Russes, have been worn, lined and edged with valuable fur; but the newest in this style is the mantelet étoilé, of watered silk, lined and wadded, trimmed with a rich dentelle de velours, laid on flat; this mantelet has wide ends, and the pelérine is so full, that the folds which are necessarily formed at the elbow, make a kind of invisible sleeve; it is quite high, encircling the throat, and crosses, closing merely with a single bride and button.

There is but little variation in the shape of bonnets; those now worn vary but in material or colour from the autumn ones: those of emerald green, with branch of feuillage, in velvet, are pretty; and also coloured satins, entirely covered with black lace. Satin capotes are trimmed with velvet for morning wear; but if of light colour, velvet is not used. Collures are in endless variety, they mostly form a fan-shaped at the back of the head on the little caps termed *jeans mouchés*. All collars of turban, *jeans mouchés*, &c., are generally worn very forward on the head. From the *London and Paris Ladies' Magazine of Fashion*.

THE LATE MURDER AT SALTHILL.—The parochial officers of Farnham Royal, in which parish Sarah Hart met with her untimely death, having been bound over by John Charley, Esq., the coroner, to prosecute Tawell at the ensuing assizes for the county of Bucks, they have retained the services of Mr. Sergeant Byles, and Mr. Prendergast on the part of the Crown. Mr. Long, solicitor of Windsor, has been engaged by the parochial authorities of Farnham, to conduct the prosecution. The trial is expected to commence on Wednesday, the 11th of March; to be examined by the number of witnesses to be examined, both for the Crown and the prisoner, the trial is expected to last until a late period on the following day. There will be nearly twenty witnesses examined for the prosecution.

MAXIMS OF BISHOP MIDDLETON.—Perseverance against discouragements. Keep your temper. Employ your leisure in study, and always have some work in hand. Be punctual and methodical in business, and never procrastinate. Never be in a hurry. Preserve self-possession, and do not be talked out of a conviction. Rise early, and be an economist of time.

Printed and Published by CHARLES FARRAR, at the Morning News Office, 10, Abchurch Lane, London. Sydney, New South Wales, Saturday, June 14, 1845.